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BULLITT URGES AID

FOR CHINA

Seven Questions For Stalin

Finns Suspicious Of Mooted Pact

Helsinki, Mar. 2.—Seven questions were put to Marshal Stalin by President Juho Paasikivi, of Finland, about the proposed treaty of mutual military assistance and friendship.

They included: What obligations would the proposed pact impose on the Finnish armed forces, already sharply reduced by the peace treaty?

What effect would the pact have on public opinion?

Would the pact improve or impair relations between the two countries?

How would the pact affect the peace treaty?

What was the meaning of certain changes in the Russian and Hungarian treaties (which Marshal Stalin quoted as models for the proposed Finnish-Russian pact)?

EXPERTS TO REPORT

These questions, which were being discussed today by foreign affairs experts of the Finnish Government and the various Parliamentary groups, were put to Stalin in a letter which the President handed to Lieutenant General Savonmaki, the Soviet Minister in Finland, in acknowledgement of Marshal Stalin's earlier letter.

Government experts had tonight completed their report on these questions but all political parties, except the extreme left People's Democrats, which supports the proposed pact, were still in consultation.

Party leaders, apart from those of the People's Democrats, said tonight that the pact was not welcomed but that it was impossible to refuse to discuss it.

These leaders, while advocating that good relations should be maintained with Russia, considered that a neutral line was the best for Finland.

They said their parties would not be stampeded into a pact but would insist that it be placed before Parliament for approval in the normal constitutional way.

PARLIAMENT TO DECIDE

President Paasikivi was reported to be relying on a decision by Parliament rather than by the Cabinet, Cabinet in which the People's Democrats hold important posts.

This was believed to be the reason why the Parliamentary groups were insisting on a full examination of the proposal, with all its implications, before giving their approval. (Continued on Page 4)

Military Supplies To Fight Reds

Washington, Mar. 2.—Mr. William C. Bullitt, former United States Ambassador to Russia, advised Congress today to vote \$100,000,000 for military supplies to China.

Giving evidence before the Lower House Foreign Affairs Committee on aid for China, Mr. Bullitt said: "China is the key to the entire Far East. If our Government should permit the Communists to take over China, it would have failed to bar the way to an attack on our country by overwhelming masses of Stalin-driven slaves."

"We cannot successfully oppose the Communist conquest of the world by opposing Communism in Europe only."

19 Die When Plane Explodes

London, Mar. 2.—Nineteen people are stated to have been killed when a Dakota plane from Brussels, belonging to the Sabena Airlines, nosedived, exploded and burst into flames at the London airport tonight.

Three passengers were thrown clear, but badly burnt. All members of the crew of five are believed to have been burned to death.

The plane had touched the airport at night when it crashed, forced by an emergency landing. There was thick fog.

Amidst the wreckage, doctors and nurses were busy, but the casualties could do little in the intense heat.

It was believed late tonight that the passengers and crew totalled 22. A worker at the airport, who ran to the plane when it crashed, turned his way into the blazing aircraft, and dragged one passenger out.

"There were men and women screaming and trying to loosen their safety belts," he said.

The fire raged, with six fire appliances, had the flames under control in three-quarters of an hour. (Continued on Page 4)

EDITORIAL

Vandenberg's Speech

SENATOR Arthur Vandenberg's speech to the American Senate which opened the debate on the Marshall aid plan has been described as the greatest in his long political career. Certainly it ranks as one of the most incisive and convincing pleas yet made on behalf of the European Recovery Programme. It was a plea, not only for prompt Congressional acceptance of the Marshall Plan provisions, but an appeal to Soviet Russia, so patently sincere, to change her mind and join the 16-nation group in helping to restore Europe to prosperity; that it can only fail to evoke a sympathetic response if it falls on deliberately closed ears. Which, it is to be feared, it will. The high note of Senator Vandenberg's speech was not the amount of assistance, both in cash and kind which the United States propose to extend to Western Europe, but his emphasis, firstly on the necessity of the beneficiaries exerting their own will "to make common cause for the mutual defence of their welfare"; secondly on the insistence that the plan is not one of external conquest or of dictation, but of "internal recuperation by self-chosen methods." Pointedly, Senator Vandenberg declared: "An honourable release of the East-West (European) tension would be the greatest boon of modern times. It can be released whenever there is mutual East-West fidelity to the objectives of World War II asserted by the United Allies on January 1, 1942, and wherever there is mutual

East-West fidelity to the principles of the United Nations." It is inconceivable that such an honest invitation could be rejected even by Soviet Russia, though she is by a distrust of complex which has no parallel in international relationships. Russia, however, gives the appearance of having burnt her boats over the question of the rehabilitation and integration of Europe, and the Vandenberg appeal can expect only to be greeted with derision by Moscow. The Marshall plan alone is not a guarantee that Western Europe can effect a full recovery, or even put herself on the high road to this objective, but there are no signs lacking that the 16 nations who have put their faith in the plan are prepared to make every individual effort to bring about its success. Content with Senator Vandenberg's speech came the announcement that Britain, France and the Benelux countries were making "elaborate strides" in reaching an agreement intended to bolster and consolidate the ERP, and this, as much as Vandenberg's powerful declaration to the Senate should encourage Congress to give prompt approval to the measure. With Russia, applying political pressure to defeat the aims of the plan, the time factor in making American aid available assumes a new and urgent importance. Every week lost, the sponsors of the recovery programme is a significant gain to Russia and her satellites who desire to sabotage it.

The House Committee is holding hearings on the proposal to give \$500 million in non-military aid to the Russian Government.

Mr. Bullitt, accused the State Department, which drafted the loan to China programme, of "apathy."

Mr. Bullitt recommended that the United States send to Nanking at once "a man of the highest intelligence and energy" who could help China on its military as well as its political and economic problems, and that the United States make sure that China gets plenty of munitions to fight the Communists.

SOVIET THREAT

He said the Soviet Government had been arming the Chinese Communists from both the enormous amount of equipment it had captured from the Japanese and from new Japanese equipment, which it had manufactured in Korea and Siberia.

He said that if the Communists overran China, they would move on to Indo-China, Sumatra, the Malay Peninsula, and eventually to Japan. Mr. Bullitt attacked Mr. George Marshall, the Secretary of State, for "breaking the promise of the United States Government"—on arms delivery to China.

He described the United States Government's record in China as "dishonourable and disgraceful."

"A Communist conquest of China would lead rapidly to a Communist victory in Indo-China, which would almost inevitably be followed by the Communist subjugation of Sumatra and the Malay Peninsula."

"Moreover, if Stalin should drop an iron curtain between the continent of Asia and Japan, it would be impossible for Japan to maintain its economic life except by crawling under the iron curtain and becoming a Soviet satellite," Mr. Bullitt said.

CONTRADICTS MARSHALL

He contradicted the evidence given by Mr. Marshall on arms shipments. "The American Government has not delivered to China a single combat plane or a single bomber," since General Marshall, in August, 1946, by unilateral action, broke the promise of the United States Government to the Chinese Government, and suspended all deliveries of planes.

"Since the summer of 1946, except for some ammunition left in China by our Navy and Marines, the Chinese Army has not received a single cartridge or a single shell for its American equipment."

"A small amount of ammunition is now on its way to China, thanks to Congress. We have withheld munitions from our friends, while we are arming our enemies."

"Even after Mr. Marshall gave up his attempts to put the Communists into the Chinese Government and returned to the United States, he did not permit the resumption of deliveries."

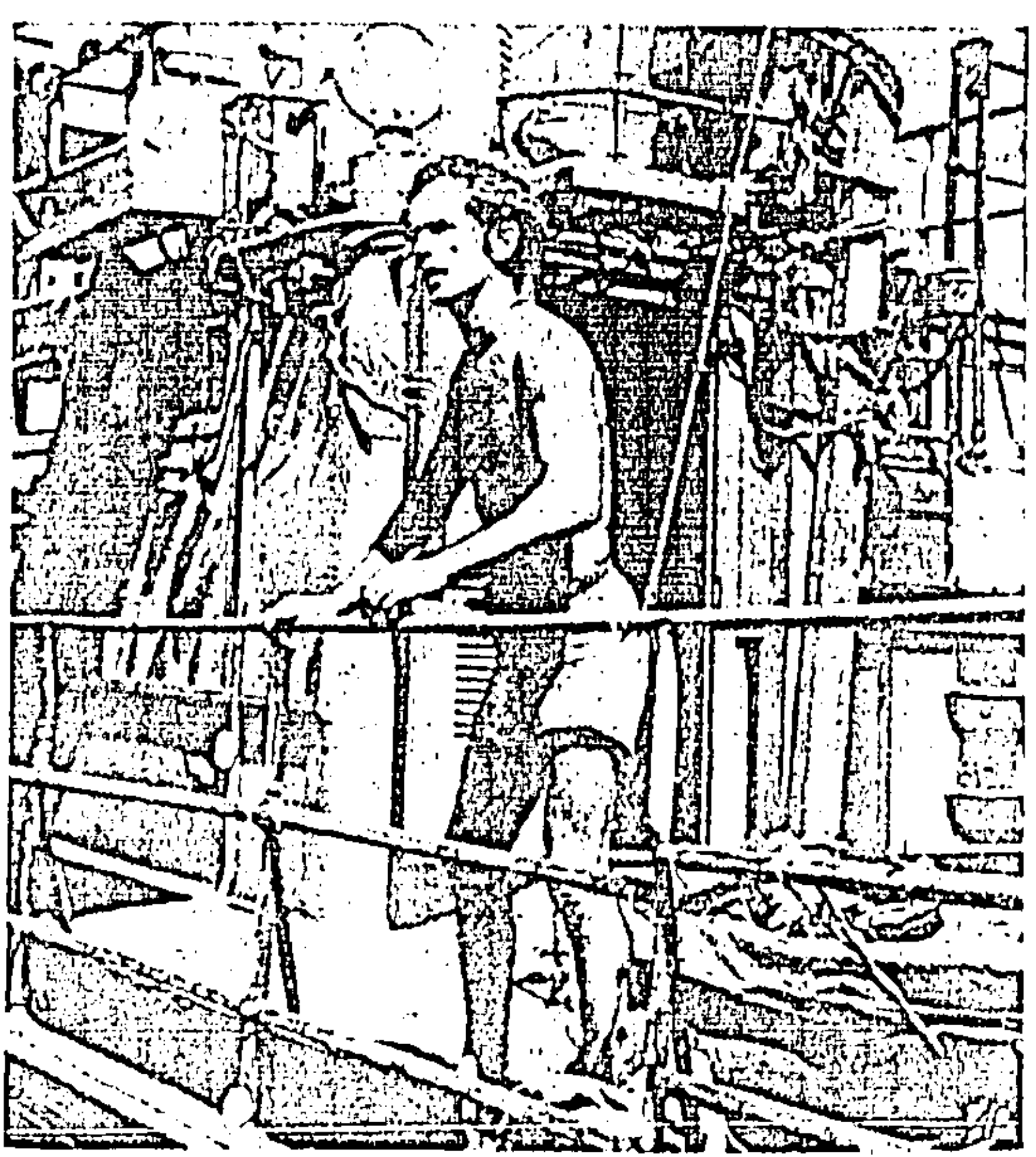
"To this day, not a single combat or bombing plane has been delivered to China since August, 1946."

It was announced in Washington last week that the United States would build up the National Government's first line air force to 1,000 planes.—Reuter.

Oil Field Discovered

Istanbul, Mar. 2.—Discovery of a rich oilfield in the Taurus river valley near Diyarbakir in South Eastern Turkey, was reported yesterday. No estimate was given of its potential, but geologists reported it was "rich". President Ismet Inonu was touring the eastern provinces visited the site area on Monday.—Associated Press.

4½ Months Adrift



Palestine Problem

BIG 5 TO TRY TO FIND SOLUTION

Lake Success, Mar. 2.—Russia accepted conditionally today a United States plan for the Big Five to try to solve the Palestine problem.

A shouting woman demonstrator briefly disrupted a tense United Nations Security Council meeting before Mr. Gromyko, Soviet deputy Foreign Minister, spoke.

Gromyko voiced Russia's decision against creating a formal committee of the Big Five powers for consultations with Arabs, Jews and the British. Gromyko said the divergent powers certainly should consult among themselves but that a committee as such would only drag out a settlement. Britain informed the Council she could not join the proposed big power consultations.

ARTIFICIAL PROPOSAL

Mr. Gromyko said that "no one great power should hide behind a committee." He said the US proposal for a big five committee to consult with the Jews and the Arabs was "artificially introduced" and could not be justified. He said the Palestine Commission already is consulting with Jews and Arabs and there is no necessity of creating a parallel channel for consultations.

The five powers, he suggested, should talk informally and report back in 10 or 15 days.

"The situation is such that any delay in the consideration of these questions could not be justified in any way," Gromyko said.

He still did not give any hint on Russia's position on the international force requested by the five-nation Palestine Commission to help carry out the partition plan.

Members have been slow to speak on that point.—Associated Press.

MORE RIOTING IN ACCRA

Accra, Gold Coast, Mar. 2.—Nine people were killed and 120 wounded, it was learned tonight in the rioting in Accra yesterday, when African ex-servicemen attacked and looted stores.

Other disturbances at Koforidua and Akuse, 200 miles from here, were brought under control but a curfew was imposed at Kumasi, 120 miles to the north.

In a broadcast last night, the Governor, Sir Gerald Cressy, alleged that the rioting had been incited by a new political body, called the "United Gold Coast Convention," which included members of the intelligentsia.—Reuter.

Avalanche Kills Fox Hunters

Istanbul, Mar. 2.—Fox hunters, tramping through the wild mountains of the eastern frontier province of Cholemerlik, perished under a sudden avalanche. As a group of 40 men tried to dig them out, a new avalanche thundered down the mountain killing eight of them. The tragedy occurred on Monday, according to press reports received in Istanbul yesterday.—Associated Press.

Ronald Johnson, 38, British seaman, stands by the rail of his battered motorless submarine chaser as the craft is towed into Suva, Fiji Islands last month. Johnson left Honolulu in October, 1947 with his ship in tow of another submarine chaser and was cut adrift, at his own request, two days out when heavy seas made further towing impossible.—AP Wire-photo.

Reparations Offer To Russia

London, Mar. 2.—Britain suggested on Tuesday that Russia should take 11 Austrian oil fields, two refineries and two oil distributing companies as part settlement of its demands for compensation for former German property in Austria.

The proposal was made in negotiations between the Big Four Foreign Ministers Deputies on a peace settlement for Austria.

Official British observers called it "a desperate attempt to bring Russia down to brass tacks."

"STEP BACKWARD"

American observers said that the Russian delegate, N. P. Rokhlov, may have to obtain instructions from Moscow before giving an answer. Russia has been claiming two-thirds of Austria's current and undeveloped oil production for the next 50 years.

Neither American nor British observers could offer any estimate as to how close the British proposal came to meeting the Soviet demand.

Rokhlov, however, called the proposal "a step backward" and said the conference is in danger of "getting stuck in details."

Russia is also seeking \$200,000,000 in cash within two years and control of the important Danube shipping company in return for former German property in Austria which she claims under the Potsdam agreement.—Associated Press.

Large-Scale Battle On Jaffa-Jerusalem Road

Jerusalem, Mar. 2.—A large scale battle developed on Thursday morning on the road through the Judean hills as Jews tried to dislodge Arab snipers' nests throttling traffic.

Police and Military moved in, Jewish agency source said, and joined Jews in fighting Arabs.

Heavy automatic weapons and grenades were used. The Jews are believed to be bringing up mortars. The Arabs are dug in on hillside about 12 miles from Jerusalem on the road to Jaffa. A three mile stretch of road has been virtually impassable for weeks because of Arab snipers.

Fighting lasted several hours but except for one wounded Jew, casualty reports are not available. Three Jews, missing after Monday's fighting in the same area, were found dead yesterday.

This brought post partition vote deaths to 1625.—Associated Press.

ORANGE GROVE LEVELLED

Jerusalem, Mar. 2.—British troops today destroyed the orange grove where Jewish terrorists had hid

Resignation Of Benes Rumours Denied

Prague, Mar. 2.—The reports that President Edward Benes of Czechoslovakia is seriously ill were not confirmed here tonight, and the question of his resignation "has not even been discussed," it was reliably stated, writes Hubert Harriman, Reuter's special correspondent in Prague.

The unofficial and official indications were tonight that the reports of his resignation were "very premature."

The President is in Sestmova Usti, his country seat in Southern Bohemia, some two hours by road from Prague.

He will be returning to the capital in a few days' time to the state of his health permits.

"After a careful investigation in official and unofficial quarters, I am assured that M. Hubert Rikta, former Minister of Foreign Trade, and M. Kralina and M. Denik, two other leading Czech Socialists, have not escaped abroad as rumoured," writes Hubert Harriman, who added that all three are in Czechoslovakia and at liberty.

Broadcasting to action committees tonight, the Communist Minister of Justice, Dr. Alexey Copek, said they need not be afraid to exercise their legal powers as all their decisions "in the interests of the State" will be sanctioned by law later.

"If you act in the interests of the cause," he said, "you need not fear any unpleasant consequences of your act."

The Communist Minister of Agriculture, M. Hrusa, today ordered a purge of all holders of confiscated land. If they were found to be "unreliable," or opposed to the new regime, they should be deprived of it, he said. "But care must be taken not to upset the working of the land," he added.

Meanwhile action committees, which have been carrying out a purge of Czechoslovak life, have come to stay.

Continuing this, M. Rudolf Slansky, Secretary-General of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, declared today there was "no room for subservient opposition in the Government or in the National Front."

The action committees would control the reorganisation of the Right-wing parties, M. Slansky said.

Zdenek Fiala, the Social Democrat Minister of Industry, who was quoted yesterday for the statement that the action committee would not become a permanent feature of Czechoslovak life.

Addressing a meeting of leading party members in Prague, M. Slansky said that the action committee would be permanent organs of the people and of the popular democracy, according to the Czechoslovak news agency.

RIGHT TO SUPPRESS

The action committees would have the right to approve the composition of the new organs of the National Socialist and People's parties and to intervene in the purge of the Social Democratic Party.

They would also watch the press and propaganda to prevent infiltration by "subversive elements."

A general secretariat of the National Front would be established with permanent committees and national secretaries. The National Front would have to suppress any

political influence of reaction and to unite the people morally, M. Slansky said.

A further task was to increase the vigilance against the cunning methods of reaction, to protect industrial plants, State property, and the peace of the working people.

The Communist Party would be built up and strengthened still further. Next Sunday, a recruiting campaign for the party would start, with the aim of increasing the number of members by 600,000, to reach the target figure of two million.

"The last hope of our defeated reaction," M. Slansky said, "is whispering about a third war. They place themselves on the same level with the Germans who similarly think of their revenge. But they will miscalculate as they have miscalculated before the forces of peace were strong enough to foil their war plans."—Reuter.

EMBASSY DENIAL

London, Mar. 2.—A Prague report in a London evening paper, that President Benes had resigned, from office was denied tonight by the Czechoslovak Embassy in London.

An official at the Embassy told Reuter officially: "We are authorised to say that it is not true. President Benes has not resigned."

The newspaper report stated: "The Communists have not yet allowed resignation to be made public for fear of a reaction among the people."—Reuter.

MILITARY INSURRECTION

Prague, Mar. 2.—The Czechoslovak Ministry of the Interior, announcing charges of military insurrection against members of the national security forces, tonight said that these members, "among them many officers," attended a conference in a Prague restaurant on February 13 organised by the National Socialist Party.

"The participants in the conference passed a resolution, the contents of which are incompatible with the duties of military service personnel," the announcement continued.

"The participants have therefore been reported to the military prosecutor to be charged with military insurrection. The civilian participants of the conference will be charged with attempted aiding and abetting military crimes."

Unofficial estimates said tonight that the number who have lost their jobs or moved to posts of less responsibility in the purge runs into several hundred thousands.

In one factory alone, a Moravian steel plant, it was reliably but unofficially reported that 1,100 persons have been dismissed because they refused to sign a declaration of loyalty to the new regime.

The Czechoslovak civil service and nationalised industries have hitherto been said to be seriously overstaffed.—Reuter.

Brave Rescue Attempt Fails

London, Mar. 2.—A boy of 10 told the coroner at an inquest at Ealing, Middlesex, today how he had stripped off his clothes except his pants, went out on the ice-frozen lake and plunged into the icy water in an attempt to rescue two chums who had fallen in.

The lad, David Western, was afterwards praised by the coroner, who said: "You are a brave little boy."

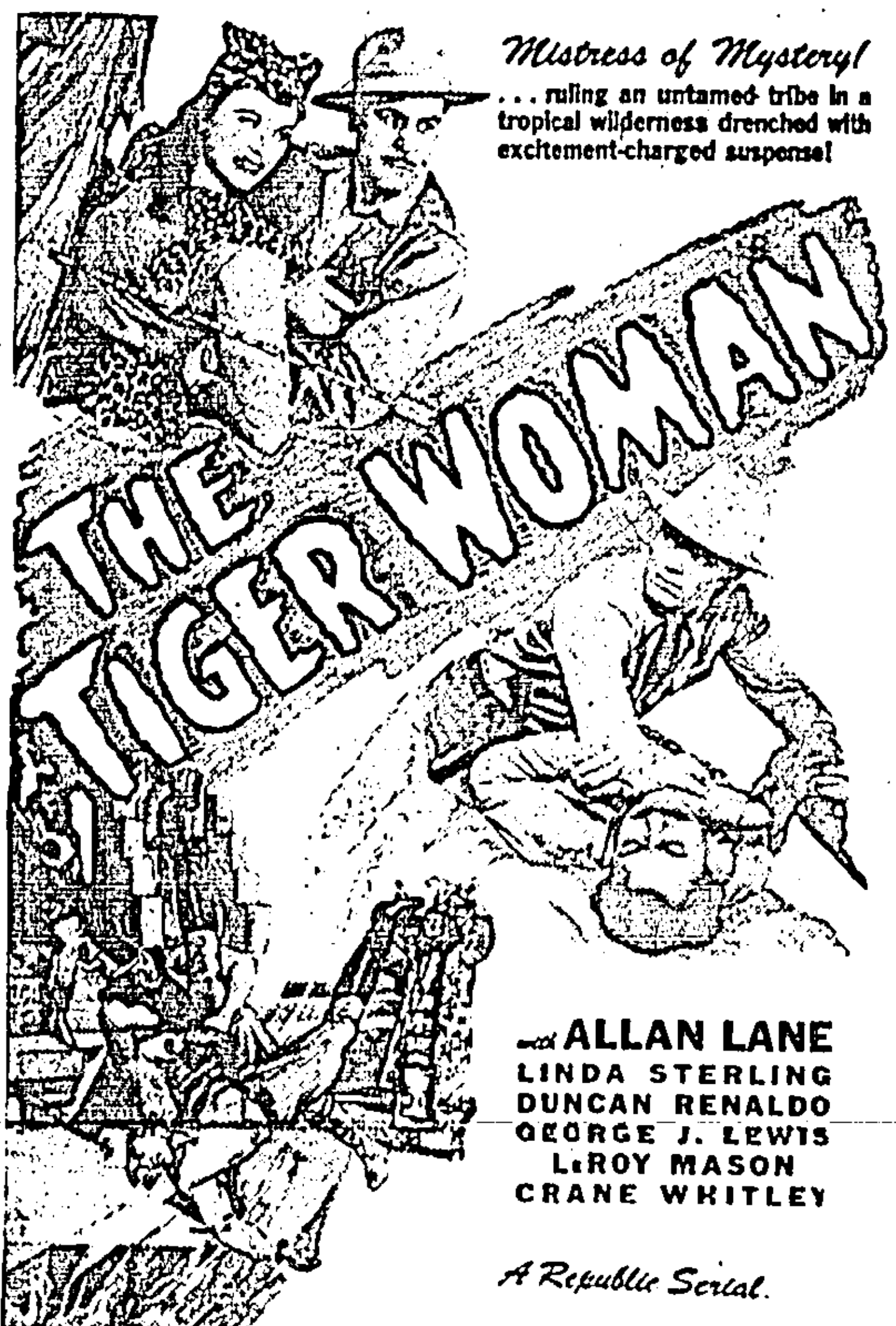
The inquest, described by the coroner as a "little story of five boys who went out for an afternoon's fun," was one Leonard Edwards, 11, and James William Samworth, nine, both of Acton, who died last Friday after being rescued from a lake in Outley Park.

A verdict of accidental death was recorded in each case. The boys were placed in iron-lungs in an attempt to save them.

The police inspector said that after Western's rescue attempt, his body, limbs and hands were covered with cuts caused by ice and he was "absolutely frozen."—Reuter.

SHOWING
TO-DAY**KING'S**At 2.30, 5.15.
7.20 & 9.30 p.m.SHE was a boom-
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HE was a rich,
romantic rogue!
Their love story is
gusty, lusty and
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PresentsMarlene
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"AN IDEAL HUSBAND"

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7.20 & 9.20 p.m.THRILLS in the sky!
DANGER on the sea!
DRAMA out of this world!
Paramount presents

"SEVEN WERE SAVED"

Richard DENNING • Catharine CRAIG • Russell HAYDEN

COMMENCING FRIDAY

Bing CROSBY • Bob HOPE • Dorothy LAMOUR in

"ROAD TO UTOPIA"

"How'd you like to be a poet nowadays, Fred, having to make everything rhyme
with currency, inflation, dollars and all that?"

Every Wednesday in the Telegraph:

Sitting on the
Fenceby NATHANIEL
GUBBINS"WELL," said the Sweep,
"how are you feelin'
now the price of
nourishment's gone up?"

"Not so dusty," I said.

"Nor me," said the Sweep.
"Penny on the pint ain't so bad
except when you're tryin' to
celebrate a royal wedding."

"That's right," I said.

"Cor huvaduck they might ave
put it off for a week so we
could do the job properly."

"They might."

"Because you don't ave a royal
wedding every day."
"You certainly don't."
"And perhaps it's just as well
judgin' by ow some people felt the
next mornin'."

"Ear, ear."

"All the same," said the Sweep,
"it's nothink to what's goin' to
appen in April."

"Go on?" I said.

"Cor sufferin' wars," said the
Sweep, "how little old Cripps
become Chancellor of the Exchequer
your life'll be ardy worth livin'
after the next Budget."

"Well," I said.

"Because there won't be no art
larks with little old Cripps."
"I don't suppose there will.""When a man don't want much
himself he don't see why anybody
else should ave it. Specially while
things are a bit unisy."

"Too true," I said.

"So you can look out for a tidy
bit more on your wallop and a tidy
bit more on your income tax."

"Thanks."

"And as there won't be many
fags about you'll probably ave to
give up smokin'. And, very nice,
too."

"Very nice."

"All the same," said the Sweep,
"I darsay you'll be much calthier."

"I darsay."

"Cor stone the crows, you might
live to be a undred and ave another
five years of misery."

"So might you."

"Though I don't advise you to
go on with your little bit of typin'
all that time."

"I won't," I said.

"Seem that you can't buy nothink
with what you earn, you might as
well give it up now and do a proper
man's job."

"I might as well."

"You'd be much better off if
you was directed to the mines."

"I probably would."

"At least you'd git a square meal
and a bit of extra soap to wash
your dirty neck with."

"That's right."

"Which is more than you git now."

"Too true."

"Still," said the Sweep, "you
don't want to start a-grumblin'."
"I ain't a-grumblin'.""Before little old Cripps starts
work on the next Budget," said the
Sweep, "you might as well swallow
as much wallop as you can."

"I certainly will," I said.

"The skin of your nose," said
the Sweep.

"The skin of your nose."

Letter from
an aunt

My dear Boy,—

YOUR Uncle Fred is in a state of
great excitement about the
formation of a new civil defence
organisation, including a mobile
military column. He thinks it
means a revival of the Home Guard
and is already looking forward to
dressing up again in uniform and
dashing about in lorries and, I sup-
pose, dashing in and out of bars.
His old enemy, the ironmaster,
who had a commission in the I.G.,
is feeling the rough edge of his
tongue again, just like old times.
Your Uncle says to give an iron-
monger a commission in anything,
even the Boy Scouts, was the thin
end of the wedge of Socialism.Emily got so worked up about the
meal feeding that anyone would
think she was getting married her-
self. I suppose it brought back
memories of the day she was fitted
by the retired insurance man be-
cause of her awful catarrh.Of course we don't know for cer-
tain if it was that, but it was funny
the way he suddenly sold up his
house, bought an Alsatian and went
to live in Cornwall without even
saying goodbye. She had a terrible
cold at the time.On Wednesday she was lying on
the sofa with something ailed and
wearing her unwept wedding dress,
recking of moth balls.On Thursday she had her ear-
rings to the radio all day long in
case she missed anything, while
dear, darling Porgy, in his clever
doggy way, jumped on the table and
ate her lunch.On Friday she was in a state of
collapse and didn't come down till
supper time, looking very pale.Porgy came round to tea (last
of the bridling two points a tin)
and told us that the Russians had
upon the atom bomb as out of date.
She said that as everything is com-
posed of atoms the Russians have
found a way of exploding the lot
and blowing up the whole world
unless everybody becomes a Com-
munist.Naturally, this upset Emily, who
has been frightened of Russians ever
since she wrote a school essay
attacking Ivan the Terrible. We
had to give her a teaspoonful of
your Uncle Fred's whisky and put
her to bed. Poor darling Porgy ate
her bridlings.The Impoverished Gentlemen's
True Blue Conservative Association
had another row with the left-wing
intellectual secretary of the, whilst
club, this time about food subsidies.When the secretary told the im-
poverished gentlemen at a club
social that most of them would
starve to death but for controls and
food subsidies, one of them shouted
back she would rather starve to
death under a Conservative Govern-
ment than eat two ounces of bacon
a fortnight under a Socialist Gov-
ernment.As she was full of rock cakes and
fish-paste sandwiches I suppose she
felt rather bold.The gardener, who is translating
Karl Marx into rhyming cockney
slang instead of lifting our potatoes,
says that in the world revolution we
shall be used for poison-gas experi-
ments.Your loving
AUNT MAUD.Party
conversation"EXCEPT for a few hours' sleep,
Margaret's father drank the
health of the royal bride since
breakfast-time for a week.""My husband says you would only
have to tell women the same old lie
about potatoes making you fat and
you wouldn't have to ration pota-
tores."It's a pretty mad world when you
find Englishwomen going on diets
for their figures while people in
Europe are dying of starvation.""If they want to get slim they
could go to Germany and live on
German rations."On the royal wedding day Mar-
garet's father drank himself round
the Empire on Canadian whisky,
South African sherry and Australian
burgundy.""If times were normal Brenda's
husband would become a fruitarian
so that she couldn't muck about with
his food any more.""My husband says that as east
winds get on your liver and as east
winds always blow from Russia it
must be that which makes them so
difficult.""An east wind and a diet of
vodka and caviare would make any-
body bilious.""Perhaps if the commissars llyed
on the Russian workers' diet they
would be more reasonable."Barnardo Babies
Can Be Adopted

By JAMES BARTLETT

LONDON.
GOOD NEWS for just a few of the thousands
of people who want to adopt a child.
Dr Barnardo's Homes (caring for 7,000 children
up to 18) has been registered as an adoption
society.How many children will this release? "Not
more than 20 in a year," said an official of Dr
Barnardo's. "Our first aim is still to reunite a
child with its parents or relatives, even if this
takes years."Welcome this as a first step in ending the
apparently farcical situation in which Britain has
125,000 "unwanted" children—and yet turns
away hundreds of would-be adopters each year.

PARADOX—1

Even an Australian surgeon and his wife
who came 12,000 miles to find two homeless
children they could take back as their own failed
in their search.They had read in the Curtis Report the dis-
turbance of children denied normal family
care and affection. And they had read the re-
commendations:—1 "SUCCESSFUL adoption is
the most completely satis-
factory method of providing a
substitute home."2 "SATISFACTORY board-
ing-out is to be preferred to
institutional care for all suitable
children."3 "A FRESH START in a new
country for children with an
unfortunate background may be
the foundation of a happy life."Yet the answer to all their in-
quiries in Britain was: "Sorry. No
children are available."Adoption is not made easy, ex-
plains a child-care official, for three
reasons:—A near-relative might refuse to
give permission.
The child's history might make it
unsuitable for adoption.The would-be adopter so often
wants "the blue-eyed girl and refuses
the boss-eyed boy."Some of the 125,000 boys and girls
are orphans. Some are foundlings
with parents unknown. Some have
been deserted. Some are illegitimate.
Some are under temporary care.For some the courts have ruled
that the children shall live apart from
immoral or cruel parents. And the
7,500 boys and girls under mental care
are unsuitable.

PARADOX—2

It is a paradox that mothers and
fathers in Britain are letting their
children sail to the Dominions where
individual foster-parents have asked
for them by name and can get the
arrangements made.—BUT for the little boy and girl
in the care of our 880 voluntary
organisations, nobody abroad knows
their names, so nobody asks if they
can come.Our Empire child-welfare laws are
as stringent as our own—the Minister
of Immigration is the legal guardian
of every child who enters Australia.Now is the time to consider whether
this kindly intended possessiveness
is in the best interests of Britain's
"unwanted" children. Real homes
wait for them here and in the
Empire.BY THE WAY
by BeachcomberA MUSIC critic complained
recently that the orchestra
for a certain opera was too
large. What he forgot was
that this is the only way to
drown the singing, and explains
the serried ranks of outsize
trombones which were used
during Rustiguzzi's last visit to
England.She gave one glance at them at
rehearsal, and said, "Too many
trombones." "We shall see," re-
plied Toscanini. Five minutes later
the celebrated conductor whispered
to the Works Manager, "Not enough
trombones." That is why, on the
last night of "L'Artimelia mon e-
ur" Quintana and Rustiguzzi
reached the turbulent climax in Act
II.
("Io non credo alla
geografia"), extra trombones, hid-
den in boxes, in the wings, and all
over the theatre, joined in at full
blast.But these extras had not been
sufficiently rehearsed, and they went
on playing through the exquisite
lullaby, "Place a me e Basta."when the Duke of Asolo bends
above the cradle of the infant Glotto.

What do I care?

WHILE talking of music, I see
that a noted crooner is on his
way across the Atlantic to Britain.
Hence Longfellow's stirring poem:
It was the crooner Hesperus
That sailed the wintry seas.

A brave effort

DESPAIRING of getting a new
plank, the Fifthist pioneers
decided to use the old one, for
mending which they had got into so
much trouble. There was such
sympathetic applause when they
marched into the vestibule of the
Magnificent, and took up their posi-
tions. The plank was laid, gingerly,
across the capacious belly of Ashura,
and Rizamughan and Kazbulah
settled themselves at either end. The
hotel guests watched with admira-
tion and delight the rhythmic
motion of the plank, and the cool
efficiency of the three virtuosos.
Aesthetic pleasure was writ large on
every face, and one was heard to
say, "One ought to have this sort
of thing in ballet." Suddenly there
was a crack. Ashura shouted a Per-
sian oath. Kazbulah and Rizamughan
alighted gracefully. The
plank had again split in two.

NANCY Don't Look Now, but —



By Ernie Bushmiller

Don't wait
till you see this!

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DANDRUFF REMOVER

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&
QUINOL

SOLE AGENTS: NAI KANG CO., HONGKONG

FUSION OF FRENCH ZONE DISCUSSED

London, Mar. 2.—The three-power London conference on the future of Germany was generally believed in diplomatic quarters here to have discussed tonight details for a fusion of the French occupation zone with the Anglo-American bizonal area.

The Benelux delegation, headed by Jonkherr Michiels Van Verduynen, Dutch Ambassador in London, left the conference at the ten interval. It was authoritatively learned. The fusion issue is the only subject on the conference agenda in which the Benelux delegation has no direct interest.

The same authoritative quarters disclosed that tonight's discussion was of interest only to the occupying powers—Britain, France and the United States.

Today's session was reliably understood to have been highly successful. Apart from the continued absence of General Lucius D. Clay, U.S. Commander-in-Chief in Germany, full delegations were present.

The Benelux delegation is expected to attend when the conference meets tomorrow.—Reuter.

Economic Council Chairman
Frankfurt, Mar. 2.—The German Bizonal Economic Council here today elected Dr. Hermann Puender, Mayor of Cologne and the Christian Democratic Union candidate, as Chairman of the Executive Council.

The voting was 40 votes for Dr. Puender against eight for Dr. Hermann Dietrich, the Liberal candidate, who was his only rival.

The Social Democrat, Communist and Centre Parties returned blank votes. Dr. Puender thus failed to obtain an absolute majority of the 97 deputies present.

The Social Democrats explained their abstention was an expression of their lack of confidence in the economic policy of both candidates.

The Communists said their blank votes were meant to express "no." The small left wing Catholic Centre Party had previously made it clear that they would abstain because they would have preferred an agreed coalition candidate to a straight party fight.—Reuter.

Others Elected
Frankfurt, Mar. 2.—The German Bizonal Economic Council today elected Professor Ludwig Erhard, Director of the Economic Administration to replace Dr. Johannes Semmler.

Professor Erhard is head of the Bizonal Research Office for Currency Methods and a former Bavarian Minister of Economics.

The following directors of the bizonal administrations were re-elected: Dr. Hans Schlandegeschonigen, for food supply, agriculture and forestry; Herr Alfred Hartmann, for finance; Professor Edmund Frohne, for communications; and Herr Hans Schubert, for posts and telegraphs.—Reuter.

ANGLO-ITALIAN TREATY

London, Mar. 2.—The text of the draft Anglo-Italian treaty now being considered by the Foreign Offices in London and Rome is the treaty of commerce and navigation on which discussions have been going on for some time. It was learned from an authoritative source tonight.

The treaty, it is understood, would be in some respects similar to the trade pact recently concluded between Italy and the United States.

There is no question of work having been started on a treaty which would bring Italy into the proposed Western Union.—Reuter.

World Sport:

Brown Bomber Wants To Show Marva The Sights

London, Mar. 2.—Joe Louis will make an expensive-paying tour of European capitals for 10 days, starting about March 28, to show his wife Marva the sights.

The world heavyweight champion has received offers from Paris, Brussels, Copenhagen, Stockholm and Gothenburg to box in exhibitions but contracts have not been signed, a Louis spokesman said. Arrangements are expected to be completed in about a week.

"Joe planned to tour the continent as a second honeymoon," he said, "and his appearances will help to pay expenses."

Shuttling in the big attraction, Joe does not speak any Continental languages. Neither does Marva or his aides. But he plans to get along like other tourists, speaking slowly to the people who understand a little English.

Meanwhile, the champ continues his three daily exhibitions in London, boxing with any heavyweights who can be hired to "stand in" for Jersey Joe Walcott, whom Louis fights in New York next June.

Charlie Brown of Jamaica, who weighs 102, joined the troupe today, but Louis said the men he would really like to fight is Freddie Mills. Mills is British light-heavyweight champion and the biggest local fight attraction here at the moment.

A charity appearance between them was suggested by a member of the Louis party.

Mills manager, Ted Broadbent, commented: "Freddie would like very much to box Louis, but if it is before the public then Freddie is a professional just like Joe and must be paid for it. If they met in the ring even for two or three rounds it would not be an exhibition, it

Glasgow Men Nabbed In Faked Passports Case

Glasgow, Mar. 2.—Special Branch police here tonight arrested two local men, alleged leaders of the Scottish end of a faked passport plot to smuggle displaced persons from Europe to Canada.

They were arrested following questioning over a period of weeks, and have been formally charged with "unlawfully conspiring to supply persons with passports."

The Glasgow and London police have been working in close co-operation on the case since early in the year, when a foreigner was questioned at a Scottish airport after the discovery that he was carrying a passport in the name of a man with a criminal record.

Later, the police learned that a public house in Glasgow was the clearing centre of the plot and used in making contacts.

The arrested men will be taken to London later in the week for further proceedings.—United Press.

Arab Liberation Army Acts To Discipline Over-eager Fighters

Jerusalem, Mar. 2.—The Arab Liberation Army today issued military orders to apply to the area of Nabulus, the Moslem stronghold some 50 miles north of Jerusalem, the Arab Higher Committee reported.

TOJO GUILT STRESSED AT TRIAL

Tokyo, Mar. 2.—General Hideki Tojo, Japan's wartime Prime Minister, was compared with Hitler today by Mr. Rowland W. Fixel, an American prosecutor, when he continued the prosecution's summary of the evidence at the Japanese war crimes trial here.

Mr. Fixel said that under imperial rule, the top leaders of Japan became, in effect, dictators. Tojo was the best example of the German crowd of lawbreakers and murderers, with actual direct responsibility for war.

He said Tojo's evidence was reminiscent of Hitler's exhortations used to invoke the sympathy of those ignorant of his real ambitions. Tojo superimposed his view over and above the welfare of 80,000,000. Counsel added that Tojo admitted the knowledge of the attacks against Malaya, Hongkong, and the Philippines and approved of them all.

Defence Submission

Earlier, Dr. Sonei Uzawa, chief Japanese defence counsel, asked whether it was really a desirable step towards the establishment of peace to add a new punishment "to those people who acted legitimately at the expense of their own state according to the responsibilities in the diplomatic and administrative service."

He claimed that the "Greater East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere" was nothing but an ideal aiming to establish the existence of Asia, culturally and economically.

He declared that the accused were innocent and had conducted themselves rationally. It was conceivable that they had conspired to commit the wrongs alleged in the indictment.—Reuter.

Holy Places Desecrated

Lake Success, Mar. 2.—The Arab Higher Committee today accused Jewish terrorists of plotting to blow up Christian and Arab holy places in Jerusalem and lay the blame on the Arabs.

Denying charges made by a Jewish Agency spokesman on February 8 that Arabs had smuggled explosives into the area of the Mosque of Omar, the statement said:

"On reliable information, the Arab Higher Committee maintains that there is a plot by certain Jewish terrorist groups to blow up Christian and Moslem holy places, and that the statement by the Jewish Agency was only to prepare the mind of the world to blame the Arabs for such outrageous acts."

"Throughout the last 28 years, the Zionists have displayed their hostility towards Christian and Moslem holy places."

"It is their programme that a temple of Solomon be erected on the site of the Mosque of Omar, and their contempt and hostility for Christian and Moslem holy places have always been a very serious cause for friction in Palestine."

The statement then lists alleged cases of desecration of holy places by Jews.

"These outrages were committed in order to fuel out the reactions of the Moslem and Christian world. The Arab Higher Committee wishes to draw the attention of the whole world to this conspiracy, which is brewing in the minds of Jewish terrorists."

"It holds the Jewish Agency and its terrorist gangs responsible before the Moslem and Christian worlds for any damage or harm to these sacred and holy shrines."—Reuter.

Guards For Palestine

London, Mar. 2.—The 1st Battalion, the Grenadier Guards, left Victoria Barracks at Windsor today for Palestine.

The battalion marched through the town with the Colonel's band. They are relieving the 3rd Battalion, the Grenadier Guards, who are returning to England.—Reuter.

Ruhr Coal Output

Essen, Mar. 2.—The Ruhr coal production in February was 6,420,000 tons, it was learned here today.

This represented a slight decline on the total January figures, but the average output per working day was 5,000 tons higher in February than in January.

Moreover, by the end of February, production had risen to just over 280,000 tons daily.—Reuter.

CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Answers

1. Because the second time that Noah sent the dove out of the Ark, after the rain had ceased, she returned with an olive branch in her bill, so he knew the waters had subsided. 2. In 1870 by James Rilly of Ohio. The amount of the sale was shown by the hands on a clock dial. 3. George Gordon, Lord Byron. 4. 200. 5. Yacht racing. 6. Copper and nickel.

DAB & FLOUNDER . . . by WALTER



High Tariff Boosters May Block Truman

Washington, Mar. 2.—The Republicans in Congress, whose chances of Party success in the next election have been backed by campaign contributions from "protective tariff" businessmen, are expected to oppose President Truman's request for an extension of reciprocal international trade agreements.

The President's request, made yesterday, asked for a three-year extension of the Reciprocal Trade Agreements Act, put into effect 14 years ago, by President Roosevelt and Mr. Cordell Hull, his Secretary of State, and due to expire in June.

Senator Robert Taft, Republican Presidential aspirant, today opposed such a three-year extension, and said he would like to see trade pacts with other countries made subject to ratification by each House of Congress.

The Republican Party, traditionally associated with protection and high tariffs, is expected to be reluctant to come out openly in an election year against a measure to reduce international trade barriers.

The Republicans would like to have the whole issue postponed until 1949, when they might be in a more favourable position to make concessions to opponents of free trade, who fear that reductions in United States duties will subject them to stiff competition from foreign goods.—Reuter.

LAST DIP IN U.S. LOAN BUCKET

London, Mar. 2.—An authoritative British source said on Tuesday that the last \$100,000,000 of the United States loan to Britain probably will be drawn "in the next three or four days."

The British Treasury would neither confirm nor deny this supposition. A Treasury spokesman noted that the Government has a policy of not disclosing loan withdrawals in advance although it will confirm them after they have been made.

All but \$400,000,000 of the \$2,750,000,000 credit was withdrawn by last August 20. The \$400,000,000 were "frozen" while Britain negotiated new currency agreements with other countries which had been drawing dollars for their British currency holdings.

Since this sum was released Britain has drawn on it regularly, taking \$100,000,000 per month.

This source note that the last withdrawal was made on February 6 and said he believed the final drawing would be made within a day or so of March 6—one month later.

After the loan is all drawn, Britain will have to rely on the small portion of a Canadian credit which still remains, plus its own gold and dollar reserves. These reserves are estimated unofficially now at £500,000,000, enough to last only a few months.—Associated Press.

Seven Questions For Stalin

(Continued from Page 1)

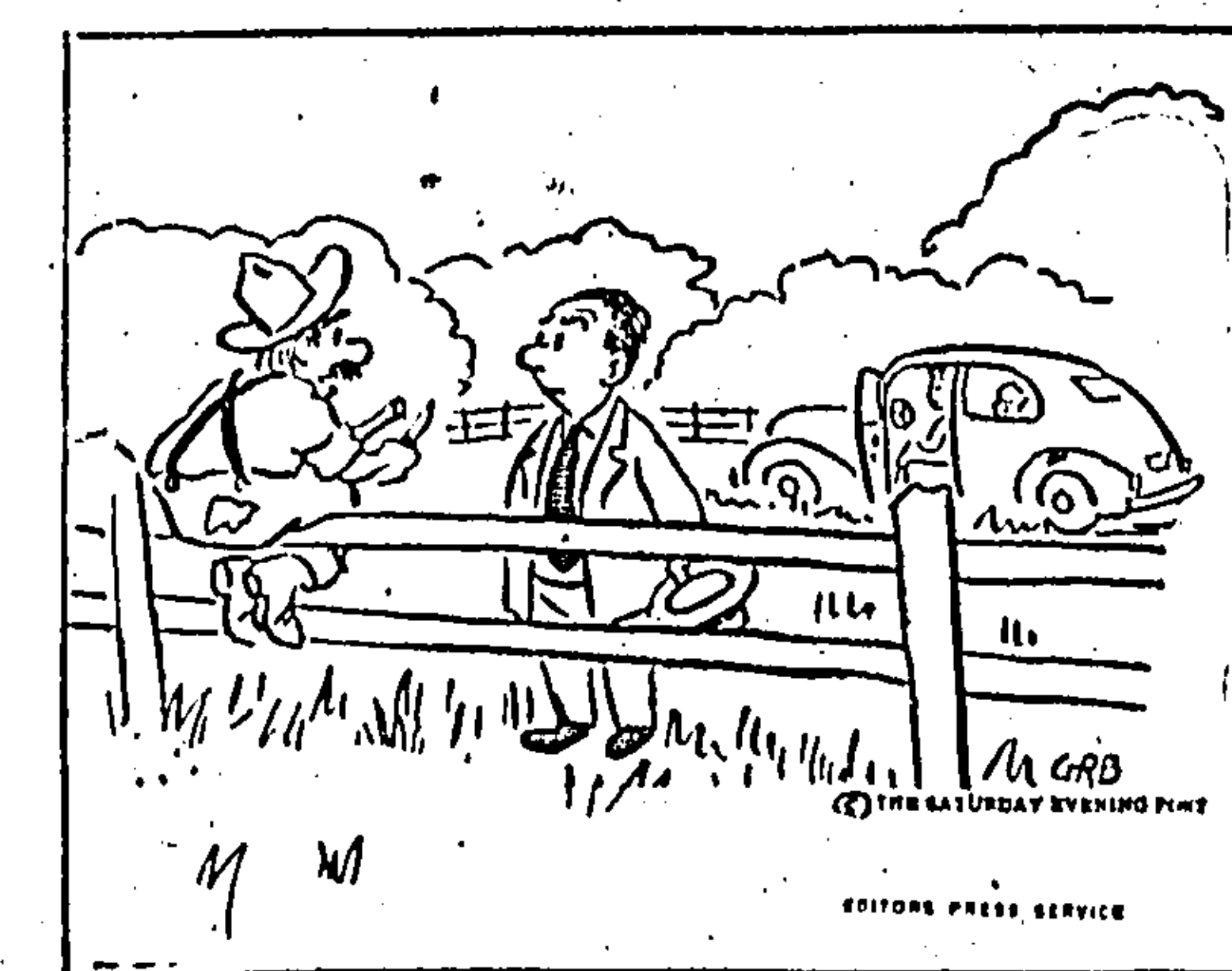
Reports reaching Helsinki tonight from Turku and Tampere tonight said that Communist workers there held meetings today calling on the Government to conclude the pact.

Mrs. Hella Kuusinen, leader of the People's Democrats, visited the Soviet Consulate here yesterday. Questioned later if she believed the Soviet wanted a pact quickly, she replied: "I represent the People's Democratic Party, not the Russian Legation."

Helsinki, though calm, was a city of rumours tonight, where every incident was receiving sensational interpretation.

Crowds watching the Presidential Palace this morning saw five Cabinet Ministers arrive. This gave rise to a rumour that the Government Foreign Affairs Committee had approved the Russian proposal. But the Ministers were merely calling on the President to attend the decoration of a leading Finnish actor.

The Foreign Affairs Committee, which consists of six Ministers, was to meet later today, it was learned. Although the full text of Generalissimo Stalin's letter to President Paasikivi was published last week, all kinds of sensational reports of the proposal were current tonight.—Reuter.



"I wish I could be more helpful to you, Stranger, but as near as I can figure it there's no way you can get from here to Oakville!"

Milton Reynolds' Aim In Aerial Expedition

Shanghai, Mar. 2.—The question whether Mount Everest will have to take second place as creation's greatest masterpiece of geography after having held the title since 1850 will be answered, probably in less than a fortnight, by the first white men who have ever been closer than 50 miles to Everest's rival—Anne Machin.

Milton Reynolds' aerial expedition, in which are combined some of the greatest Chinese and American geographical, geological and scientific minds, will determine once and for all whether Anne Machin Peak in West China—which was first seen by a white man in 1924—was surpassing Everest's 29,154 feet.

Bradford Washburn, Director of the Boston Museum of Natural History and technical supervisor of the Reynolds expedition, told a press conference today that although Anne Machin had been known to natives for thousands of years, only Golok tribesmen and priests from a lama-erie had ever seen the peak from the west or south.

P.I. LABOUR READY FOR SHOWDOWN

Manila, Mar. 2.—Philippine labour was today reported to be marshalling its forces for a showdown on the Republic's policy that it will not tolerate strikes against the Government.

Such an eventuality, it was emphasised by local labour circles, arose from the present strike of some 1,500 textile workers of the Government-operated National Development Company, who are clamouring for better pay.

Officials of the Congress of Labour organisations announced this morning that a rally would be held sometime this week to protest against the decision of President Roxas to close down the textile mills.

The possibility cannot be ruled out that union Government-operated corporations may be called upon to join the textile workers.—Reuter.

FIRE DAMAGES LUXURY YACHT

London, Mar. 2.—The 487-ton steamship *Barcelonnette*, formerly the luxury yacht *Seymour*, owned first by Grand Duke Ferdinand of Austria and later by Mr. Anthony Drexel, the American millionaire, was severely damaged by fire at Southampton early today.

The fire was believed to have started in the hold.

Her owner, Mr. D. H. Clayton-Wright, said he intended using the vessel to bring American tourists to Britain this summer but as he was unable to obtain a licence, he proposed to use her for trade purposes, posed to use her for trade purposes.—Reuter.

H.K. STAGE CLUB'S NEW PLAY

With Priestley's "Dangerous Corner", well in rehearsal, the Stage Club is already planning the next production, which will be the last of the winter season. To this end, a casting meeting is being held in the Missions to Seamen Theatre on Thursday, March 4 at 8.30 p.m. The play to be cast is "Thing That Go Bump in the Night," a comedy thriller in three acts by Clifford Davies. It is intended that this will be produced during the last week in April.

Head Of Suez Company Dead

Paris, Mar. 2.—The death was announced here today of the Marquis Louis de Vogüe, President of the Suez Canal Company. He was 80. He died in a nursing home a few days after an operation.—Reuter.

Shai's Population

Shanghai, Mar. 3.—Shanghai's population was officially announced 4,400,515, showing an increase of 130,125 as compared with December last year.

Of this, slightly over 2,500,000 are males.—Reuter.

MORE TRADE AGREEMENTS IN OFFING

London, Mar. 2.—Britain hopes to announce a satisfactory trade agreement with Finland "in a day or two," Mr. Arthur Bottomley, Secretary for Overseas Trade, told the House of Commons today.

Britain hoped the Finns would relax their restrictions on some imported goods, and she had agreed to take certain classes of manufactured goods from Finland.

He also believed satisfactory agreements would be reached with Belgium, Switzerland, Poland and Yugoslavia.

Britain wanted substantial quantities of flax and wool from Belgium and a settlement depended primarily upon getting over some financial difficulties. There had been a considerable drain of gold to Belgium, and arrangements must be made to deal with that first.—Reuter.

PACT ATTACKED

London, Mar. 2.—The terms of the Anglo-Russian trade agreement was attacked by Mr. Oliver Lyttelton, who was President of the Board of Trade in the Churchill Government, in the House of Commons today.

It complained the Government had bought 750,000 tons of coarse grain with manufactured goods, which he described as about the hardest currency Britain had in the whole sterling area.

One of the results of bulk buying by the Government was the introduction of extraneous matters into the Anglo-Russian deal, he said.

It was perhaps politically desirable to a certain section of Labour that such a deal with the Soviet Government should be made, but such things were disastrous for the proper conduct of ordinary commerce, he said.

He suspected that the price of the grain had been fixed and the price of the manufactured goods had been left open.—Reuter.

Token Imports

London, Mar. 2.—Britain has arranged for token imports during 1948 from 11 countries, the President of the Board of Trade, Mr. Harold Wilson, told Parliament today.

They are Australia, Canada, France, Holland, India, Italy, Sweden, Pakistan, Switzerland, the United States and Denmark. Other countries may be included later.

"The list differs from that of last year in that Australia, India and Pakistan are included, while Belgium, Luxembourg, Finland and Norway are omitted."

Permitted imports of specified goods will remain at 20 per cent of the value of each individual manufacturer's average trade with Britain during 1935-1938.—Reuter.

STAR

2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m. TO-DAY ONLY

THE MAN I LOVE

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